François Laffanour has picked an outstanding set of furniture for ZONA MACO 2017.

Two important pieces from Charlotte Perriand will be included in the presentation. The “Forme Libre” table, a beautiful item with a thick table top made of a rare wood species, resting on three legs (1960). It has been taken from its original collection where it was acquired in the mid-1960s from the Steph Simon gallery in Paris. The second piece is an exceptional bookcase with black metal elements (ca. 1958). It was commissioned at the time by a firm of architects.

Other iconic pieces will be shown, such as the armchair “Spectacle” (ca. 1960-1961), produced by Pierre Jeanneret for the city of Chandigarh in India, as well as a handsome set of 4 armchairs with their original upholstery by Jacques Adnet, a French decorator working from the 1930s to the 1960s.

Contemporary design will also be showcased. Among the flagship items, Ron Arad’s “Paved With Good Intentions” coffee table, a distinctive piece in polished steel, signed and numbered, taken from a special order of 64 tables for the inauguration of the Design Miami fair in 2005.

All the furniture will be presented in a very attractive setting, in the architectural tradition that has made the reputation of the displays at Downtown gallery.

ZONA MACO 2017 will take place from 8 au 12 February 2017.
Charlotte Perriand (1903-1999) - Table « Forme Libre », 1964
Ron Arad - Table "Paved With Good Intentions", 2005

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Laffanour / Galerie Downtown, Paris

Galerie Downtown - François Laffanour specializes in furniture by European and American masters of design - most of them architects - of the 20th century. For the past twenty five years, the gallery has organized thematic and monographic exhibitions on designers such as Jean Prouvé, Charles and Ray Eames, Carlo Mollino and Charlotte Perriand. Shortly after the Second World War, this generation of designers brought a new concept to the art of furnishing, dictated by a need for freedom and functionality - a new « art de vivre » in a time of technological and scientific advances - creating for the first time forms that were pure and without ornament. Galerie Downtown owns and works also with the Galerie Steph Simon archives. Steph Simon was the producer of Charlotte Perriand, Jean Prouvé, Serge Mouille, Georges Jouve as well as Isamu Noguchi furniture, from 1956 to 1974. Since 2004, galerie Downtown has the exclusive rights for the Ron Arad’s Furniture in France.
Design Miami/ SHoP Architects as the Recipient of the 2016 Panerai Design Miami/Visionary Award

New York City-based SHoP Architects will be honored with the annual award this December, and have been commissioned to design a public plaza at the entrance to the fair. Esteemed Italian watchmakers Officine Panerai will present SHoP Architects with the annual award. The Visionary commission will move to the Miami Design District’s Jungle Plaza after Design Miami/ to house an outdoor cultural program in partnership with the Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami.

October 2016 / Design Miami/ is pleased to announce SHoP Architects as the recipient of the 2016 Panerai Design Miami/Visionary Award. Now in its third year, the annual award is sponsored by Officine Panerai and celebrates those who have made a significant contribution to the field of design. SHoP is being recognized for its bold, evocative architecture, philanthropic initiatives, sustainable development, and innovative practices/entrepreneurship.

In its 20 years of practice, SHoP has built a diverse portfolio of signature projects with works marked by next-generation fabrication and delivery techniques, acute attention to detail, and imaginative programmatic concepts. Though its projects span the globe, with commissions on five continents, SHoP has found particular momentum in its hometown of New York City. SHoP projects in NYC are helping transform one of the world’s most iconic skylines. A super-tall mixed-use tower in Brooklyn, 9 DeKalb, which will stand at 73 stories, is currently in development—a dramatic symbol of the borough’s new identity—the studio’s East River Waterfront Esplanade is considered a new benchmark for successful public spaces in the city, and SHoP is at work on a major addition to the campus of the Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT). Beyond New York, SHoP’s current work includes a headquarters complex for Uber in San Francisco, and the Botswana Innovation Hub in Gaborone.

SHoP’s often unconventional designs are rooted in a love of craft and driven by an ongoing commitment to creating a “high-performance” architecture that embraces the field’s traditional constraints in order to transcend them.

“SHoP is a place where people come together without any prescribed idea about what the aesthetics of a building or public space should be, then we take complex problems and solve them with both beauty and technical proficiency,” Founding Principal Gregg Pasquarelli said.

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